

Britannia  
Square

*Residents' Association*

# Newsletter

SUMMER 2022

## The Summer Party Returns!

**C**ALLING ALL RESIDENTS: bring your friends, children and grandchildren and help celebrate the Queen's Platinum Jubilee with lots of family fun in the lovely RGS Springfield grounds. Come dressed in a Red, White and Blue theme with prizes for the best dressed individual and most imaginative costumes as well as prizes for the best

decorated scooter, bicycle or trike. Games, races, face-painting and lots of bubbles; bring your picnic blankets and a dish or two to share and make this a Britannia Square party to remember.

*Ann Cowper*



## BSRA events are back!

**A**fter the uncertainty and disappointment of 2021, Britannia Square Residents' Association events return for 2022 with a full programme. We start as usual with our award winning Spring Street Clean in May (see page 2), followed by a special Platinum Jubilee Garden Party in celebration of HM The Queen's 70th year of service.

We send best wishes to all residents, and look forward to seeing you at this year's events.

*BSRA Committee*

# Street Spring Clean 2022

**T**he Council have agreed to help us again with a Street Spring Clean on Sunday 29 May and Monday 30 May. All residents will be given an official notification by the Council and parking permit(s) for free use of the Pitchcroft and Croft Road Council car parks from **1 pm Sunday 29 May until 7 am Tuesday 31 May**. Residents are asked to ensure their vehicles are moved away from Albany Terrace and Britannia Square by 3 pm Sunday when they are all invited to clear weeds and litter from the pavements and kerbsides near their properties.



The Council will send street sweeping teams in on Monday morning to remove everything we have gathered up. It is intended that the gully cleaning machines will also take advantage of the clear access. Residents are free to bring their vehicles back after 3 pm on Monday 30 May.

The Council will provide cones to deter parking in the 3-hour non-resident bays and will display warning notices in advance throughout the area.

Tools and equipment for those without their own will be provided by the Council from 3 pm on Sunday 29 May at the United Reformed Church Hall, Albany Terrace.

*Ian Terry*

## Britannia Square's 'Missing House'

**W**e often describe Britannia Square as the only complete residential Regency square in the country, but is it really so? We have recently discovered that the Square is missing a remarkable house.

Following research, Albany Terrace resident Robin Dallaway has added a fascinating story, photographs and video to our House Histories project.

More about **Eastbourne Lodge, Britannia Square's Missing House** can be found on our website, at <http://britanniasquare.org/eastbournelodge.aspx>





Photograph by Ella Blankstone

# Gull Deterrence 2022

Worcester City Council will continue to provide gull deterrence hawk flying on four days a week throughout May 2022. We were requested to provide a £540 contribution to the hawking programme, along with other local residents' groups and businesses. The funds have been raised by a request for £10 per household, which to date has brought in exactly the sum required, so we won't need to use any of our gull deterrence reserve funds this year. The Committee are most grateful to all the residents who have contributed to this sum. Anecdotal evidence suggests that the deterrence programme is having a beneficial effect on the incidence of gulls nesting on our roofs.

Later in the year, when the gulls have nested, we will also be included in the council's egg and nest removal programme. Any accessible new nests will be inspected using a cherry picker and removed.

The most prominent and historically active rooftop and chimney nesting sites were protected by mesh cages during last year's programme, to prevent the gulls nesting on them.

The Gull Control Officer is Gordon Dugan, who can be contacted on 07917 592887 and at [gordon.dugan@worcsregservices.gov.uk](mailto:gordon.dugan@worcsregservices.gov.uk)

Ian Terry and John Ball

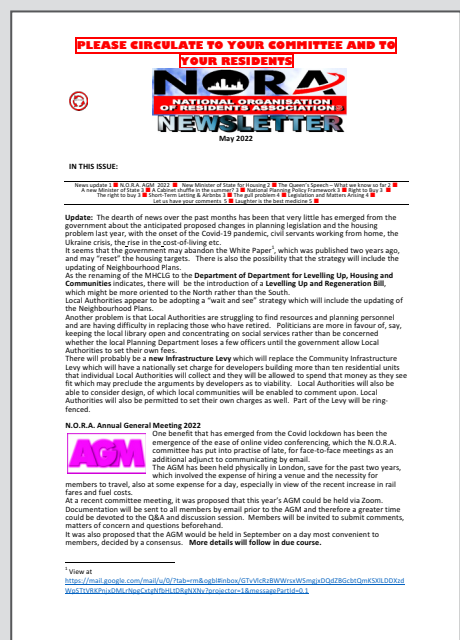
## NORA

Britannia Square Residents' Association is a member of NORA, the National Organisation of Residents' Associations. NORA was founded in 2003 by a group of town centre residents' associations who were concerned about the local threat to their environment and needed advice on issues such as:

- Planning • Licensing • Traffic management
- Car parking • Community safety

Newsletters received from NORA are available to view on BSRA's website. These cover a range of topical issues including planning reform and parking legislation.

<http://britanniasquare.org/nora.aspx>



## Planning Applications (changes since last Newsletter)

Date of application	Address	Proposal	Status
<b>2021</b>			
March	52 Britannia Square	Replacement single-storey rear kitchen extension.	Approved
June	28 Britannia Square	New garage	Refused
July	38 Britannia Square	Rebuild piers and entrance gate. Upgrade coach house and outbuildings to form new utility space.	Approved
August	7 Britannia Square	Replace existing rear outbuilding with a building regs approved extension to form improved kitchen and dining area. Elongation of rear arched feature window.	Approved
<b>2022</b>			
February	22 Britannia Square	Insertion of light well; 3 replacement windows, garden shed and feature wall.	Approved
May	8 Albany Terrace	Rear single storey extension and internal alterations, replacement windows to frontage.	Pending decision (Consultation ends 1 June)

BSRA tries to comment on all applications, when consulted. However, residents should comment directly on the City Council's planning website, if they would like to raise concerns or support any application.

<https://www.worcester.gov.uk/planning/planning-application-search>

## Neighbourhood Watch Preventing Theft from Motor Vehicles

**O**pportunist theft from cars has been experienced by residents in Britannia Square over recent months. There are preventative actions you can take and these are set out in advice issued by West Mercia Police.

### When you park your vehicle:

- don't leave anything of value in the car
- close your windows & sunroof
- check you haven't left your keys in the ignition
- double-check your central locking has actually locked

### Take it with you or hide it

Your mobile phone, coins for the car park, sunglasses, packs of medication or other items that can earn quick cash are irresistible to the opportunist thief. Wallets, handbags, purses and laptops should never be left in an unattended vehicle. *continues on next page*

## Neighbourhood Watch – Preventing Theft from Motor Vehicles *continued*

### Hide electrical items and leave no clues

Leaving Sat Nav mounts, suction cup marks on windows or cables on view gives clues that you may have left a Sat Nav, smartphone or other device in your car. Even if they can't see the Sat Nav or iPad, thieves might still break in to see if it's stored in the car, out of sight.

### Take your documents with you

Having a vehicle's registration and insurance documents could let a thief pretend to be the owner and sell it on so never leave any important paperwork in the vehicle.

### Secure anything that's on the outside of your vehicle

Anything left on roof-racks or tailgate racks or in roof-top boxes is easily stolen when the vehicle is parked. The use of cable locks and padlocks will make racks and boxes more secure but, if you can, avoid leaving valuable items on the outside of a vehicle when it is unattended.

### Lock your vehicle

Locking your vehicle, even when filling up with fuel or parked on your drive, greatly reduces the possibility of it being targeted by an opportunist thief. So get into the habit of locking your vehicle even if you're only going to be away from it for a moment.

### When to contact the Police

Call the Police on 101 if you see anyone acting suspiciously around a vehicle.  
Call 999 if you feel at risk or a crime is in progress.

*Carol Inman, Neighbourhood Watch Co-ordinator*

## Paid-up Member?

Of the 121 households in Britannia Square, Albany Terrace and Stephenson Terrace, 55 are current paid up members.

Life membership is £30 per household and annual membership is £5 per household. Payment of membership automatically includes your household as a member of our Neighbourhood Watch Scheme, which may enable you to claim a discount on your household insurance.

Joining the Association helps us to protect our local environment, to develop initiatives to improve our area and helps us to access local authority assistance and resources on your behalf.

**To join the Association please contact the Treasurer and Membership Secretary, Ian Terry: [iannterry@aol.com](mailto:iannterry@aol.com)**



## BSRA Committee

### Current Members

<b>Ian Terry</b> ( <i>Treasurer &amp; Membership Sec</i> )	<a href="mailto:iannterry@aol.com">iannterry@aol.com</a>	14 Albany Terrace
<b>John Ball</b> ( <i>Wine Club Chairman</i> )	<a href="mailto:johnball1@btinternet.com">johnball1@btinternet.com</a>	50 Britannia Square
<b>Ella Blankstone</b>	<a href="mailto:ellablankstone@talktalk.net">ellablankstone@talktalk.net</a>	The Old Coach House Britannia Square
<b>Ann Cowper</b>	<a href="mailto:annferrier@gmail.com">annferrier@gmail.com</a>	20 Britannia Square
<b>Robin Dallaway</b> ( <i>Website &amp; Newsletter</i> )	<a href="mailto:robindallaway@gmail.com">robindallaway@gmail.com</a>	7 Albany Terrace
<b>Carol Inman</b> ( <i>Secretary, Neighbourhood Watch &amp; Highways</i> )	<a href="mailto:csinman4@gmail.com">csinman4@gmail.com</a>	4 Stephenson Terrace